

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 39

Introduced by Assembly Member Perea

March 20, 2013

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 39—Relative to American Cancer Society Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 39, as introduced, Perea. American Cancer Society Day.

This measure would designate May 22, 2013, as American Cancer Society Day.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society, originally named
2 the American Society for the Control of Cancer, was established
3 in 1913 and has 100 years of milestones in the fight against cancer;
4 and
5 WHEREAS, The Women's Field Army started raising money
6 and educating the public about cancer in 1937; and
7 WHEREAS, In 1944, the American Cancer Society prioritized
8 the funding of cancer research which has, to date, funded 46 Nobel
9 Laureates and is the largest nongovernmental, not-for-profit
10 funding source of cancer research; and
11 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society made a connection
12 between lung cancer and smoking in 1950, which led to education
13 and laws that have greatly reduced smoking rates; and
14 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society helped seek passage
15 of the Cancer Act of 1971, which established the National Cancer

1 Institute and now funds billions of dollars annually for research;
2 and

3 WHEREAS, Relay For Life was launched by an American
4 Cancer Society volunteer in 1985 and is now the largest grassroots
5 fundraising event in the world, having raised over \$3 billion to
6 date and raising \$400 million annually to fund cancer research,
7 education, advocacy, and service for cancer patients; and

8 WHEREAS, In 1997, the American Cancer Society opened the
9 doors to the National Cancer Information Center which receives
10 nearly one million calls annually seeking information on cancer;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, In 2003, American Cancer Society researchers
13 linked obesity to most types of cancer and concluded that obesity
14 could account for 14 percent of cancer deaths in men and 20
15 percent of cancer deaths in women; and

16 WHEREAS, In 2006, for the first time in history, the actual
17 number of cancer deaths in the United States declined thanks in
18 large part to the American Cancer Society's groundbreaking and
19 tireless work in cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society and its advocacy
22 affiliate, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network,
23 were successful in gaining support and passage of legislation
24 granting the Food and Drug Administration regulatory authority
25 over tobacco products; and

26 WHEREAS, In 2012, the American Cancer Society reported
27 that cancer death rates had declined by 20 percent over the last 20
28 years, which is the equivalent of 1.2 million lives saved; and

29 WHEREAS, On Thursday, May 22, 2013, the American Cancer
30 Society, "The Official Sponsor of Birthdays," will celebrate its
31 100th birthday; now, therefore, be it

32 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
33 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby designates May
34 22, 2013, as American Cancer Society Day; and be it further

35 *Resolved*, That the Legislature urges all citizens of our state to
36 join together to finish the fight against cancer; and be it further

37 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
38 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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